

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 161520

GENEVA FOR BUFFUM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CYP

SUBJECT: SITUATION REPORT NO. 18

SITUATION IN CYPRUS AS OF 0600 (EDT) JULY 25

MILITARY SITUATION IN CYPRUS: THE UNFICYP OPERATIONS CENTER
IN NICOSIA ADVISED OUR EMBASSY THAT THERE ARE NOW 1,000
UN TROOPS GUARDING THE AIRPORT AND THERE IS NO LONGER A
THREAT OF ITS BEING OCCUPIED BY THE TURKSM IN KYRENIA
THE TURKS ARE REPORTEDLY LANDING REINFORCEMENTS AND HEAVY
EQUIPMENT. A UN OFFICER ESTIMATED THAT TWO DIVISIONS WITH
TANKS AND ARTILLERY MAY HAVE LANDED, BUT OUR EMBASSY DOUBTS
THERE HAS BEEN SUFFICIENT TIME TO OFF LOAD THAT LARGE A
CONTINGENT. SEPARATE REPORTS INDICATE THAT TWENTY LANDING

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CRAFT AND EIGHT ESCORTS WERE SIGHTED OFF CYPRUS, BUT IT

IS NOT KNOWN WHETHER THESE ARE THE SAME REINFORCEMENTS SEEN BY THE UN OFFICER.

TURKEY: THE SITUATION IN ANKARA APPEARS TO BE RETURNING TO PRE-CRISIS NORMALITY. SOME OF THE CIVIL DEFENSE PRECAUTIONS HAVE BEEN RESCINDED, AND THE MILITARY AIRPORT IS QUIET.

UN: SYG WALDHEIM OPENED A MEETING OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL BY RELATING HOW THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR IN CYPRUS TOLD THE UN COMMANDER THAT TURKISH TROOPS WOULD TAKE OVER THE AIRPORT. WALDHEIM THEN TELEPHONED TURKISH PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT ON THREE SEPARATE OCCASIONS TO IMPRESS ON HIM THAT ANY ATTACK WOULD BE RESISTED BY UN TROOPS. THE SECURITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED AFTER THE TURKISH PERMREP GAVE THE SYG A LETTER STATING HIS COUNTRY UNDERTOOK "NOT TO ATTEMPT TO ASSUME POSSESSION OF THE NICOSIA AIRPORT BY FORCE, THE THREAT OF FORCE, OR OTHER MEANS OF COERCION".

TALKS: AT A PRESS CONFERENCE IN ATHENS FOREIGN MINISTER MAVROS TOLD REPORTERS THAT HE WOULD MEET WITH BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY CALLAGHAN IN GENEVA BEFORE THE MEETING OPENED. WHEN ASKED ABOUT HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD THE TALKS HE SAID THAT THE DIFFICULTIES ARE "INDEED VAST" IF TWO MEMBERS OF THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE COULD NOT AGREE ON A CEASE-FIRE. TO A QUESTION ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF A FEDERATION IN CYPRUS, HE REPLIED THAT IT WOULD NOT BE DISCUSSED WITHOUT THE PRESENCE OF A REPRESENTATIVE FROM CYPRUS, "AN INDEPENDENT COUNTRY WHOSE INDEPENDENCE IS GUARANTEED INTERNATIONALLY". IN A REFERENCE TO MAKARIOS, MAVROS DESCRIBED HIM AS "THE ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS".

GREEK SEIZURE OF US MUNITIONS FOR TURKEY: IN MID-MORNING EDT JULY 24 THE COMMAND OF OUR MILITARY MISSION TO TURKEY ASKED DOD TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER OF A LARGE SHIPMENT OF US MUNITIONS FOR TURKEY WHICH THE GREEKS MAY OFFLOAD FROM THE DETAINED VESSEL "LASH ESPANA" AT PIRAEUS. HE WARNED THAT ALTHOUGH THE TURKISH GENERAL STAFF WAS PROBABLY NOT AWARE OF THE MATTER, THE VESSEL
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IS OVERDUE IN ISTANBUL AND GREEK CONFISCATION OF THE SHIPMENT, TOGETHER WITH RECEIPT OF 796 METRIC TONS OF MUNITIONS FOR GREECE WHICH WAS ABOARD, WOULD CAUSE A CONSIDERABLE MILITARY POWER SHIFT IN THE AREA AND PROBABLY OPEN GREEK-TURKISH WOUNDS WIDER. AT 9:17 P.M. EDT THE DEPARTMENT ASKED EMBASSY ATHENS FOR A STATUS REPORT TO ALLOW US TO DECIDE WHETHER TO WEIGH IN WITH THE GREEK EMBASSY HERE. THE GREEK FONOFF OFFICIAL THE EMBASSY TALKED

TO IS REPORTED AT 2:05 A.M. EDT JULY 25 AS SAYING GOG WOULD
NOT RELEASE THE CARGO UNTIL THE CEASE-FIRE WAS EFFECTIVE AND
PERHAPS NOT UNTIL THE GENEVA TALKS WERE UNDERWAY. IT
MIGHT CONSIDER RELEASING THE SHIP TODAY. KISSINGER

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